

Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

Minutes

In attendance – Dev Sinha, Mathematics; Anita Weiss, International Studies; Kurt Kreuger, Classified Staff; Donna Laue, English; Eric Pederson, Linguistics; Madonna Moss, Anthropology; Bill Harbaugh, Economics; Jim Isenberg, Mathematics; Jim O’Fallon, Faculty Athletic Representative; Rob Mullens, Lorraine Davis, Renee Baumgartner, Gary Gray, and Jamie Moffitt, Athletics

Introductions

Athletic Director’s Report – Rob Mullens

The Women in Athletics Celebration honoring student athletes was held in the Matthew Knight Arena on May 7. More than 600 former athletes, coaches and their guests, representing 13 different women’s sports, including some sports that are no longer sponsored at Oregon such as bowling, field hockey, gymnastics and swimming, attended. The highlight of the event was the awarding of a total of 259 letters to the women who competed in intercollegiate athletics for the Ducks prior to 1982. They helped pioneer women’s athletics at the University of Oregon with their participation in intercollegiate sports programs.

The University merged its previously separate men’s and women’s athletics departments in the spring of 1977. The NCAA began administering championships in women’s sports during the 1981-82 academic year.

The Student Athlete Academic Awards Banquet was held on May 23 in the Club Room at Autzen to recognize this year’s academic achievements by student-athletes. Honorees included:

- 130 scholar athletes
- 2 Academic All Americans (so far this year) - Kat Fischer (Volleyball) and Amanda Johnson (Women’s Basketball)
- Oregon’s cumulative 53 Academic All Americans (20 more than Cal, 11 more than Colorado, 9 more than UW, 22 more than OSU)

12 student athletes were inducted into Chi Alpha Sigma, the national honor society for those collegiate student-athletes who have excelled in both the classroom and in athletic competition. Chi Alpha Sigma recognizes college students who receive a varsity letter in their sport while maintaining a 3.4 or higher cumulative GPA throughout their junior and senior years.

40% of Oregon’s student-athletes earned a 3.0 GPA or higher and 90% of student-athletes who complete their eligibility at the UO also graduate from the UO.

All campus faculty and staff who were present were asked to stand and be recognized for the encouragement and work they provided to support our student athletes.

Faculty Appreciate Night was held in the End Zone Terrace at Autzen Stadium on Saturday, May 14, and included attending the UO v. Stanford baseball game in PK Park.

Senior Associate Athletic Director Joe Giansante has resigned to take another position and a search will be conducted to fill his position.

APR for 2009-10 was released and our Women's Golf Team had a perfect score.

Response for renewals for Football season tickets was 98.5%. A waiting list for available season tickets has been established.

IAC Chair's Report – Dev Sinha

Know the O: It was suggested to have the Faculty Recognition participants and the Faculty Guest Coaches introduced on the field during the half-time at home football games.

Phase 1: Media Relations provide faculty background info to color broadcasters for mention during game.

Phase 2: Creation of more polished pieces for interstitial programming on pauses during play of televised games. It was mentioned that IMG holds the rights to local broadcasts and they are underwritten by sponsors. The IACs involvement could be members who volunteer to review the spots produced, perhaps over the summer. The target audience would be potential students and their parents.

Dev welcomed the newest members to their first committee meeting. The IAC bridges the gap in communications between the academic side of the University and athletics. There is a learning curve involved in gaining an understanding of the rules, procedures and budgets of the Department of Athletics. For the benefit of the new members to the Committee, a review of the level of commitment and responsibilities of committee members was given:

- Low (time) commitment level
 - Committee does not usually meet during summer term
- Advise search committees
- Participate in other projects
- Provide messaging input
- Holding the position of Chair requires extra work
 - Responsibilities could be shared by subcommittees
- Useful IAC meeting agenda items
 - Recurring items
 - Agendas could be drafted and set for entire year
 - Suggested presentations:
 - Compliance
 - Tutors
 - Coaches
 - Academic Progress Rates (APR)
 - Monitoring the latest rules and resources

- Special admissions – are student athletes judged by the same criteria as all other students
- NCAA legislative process
- Monitoring of changes to major requirements
- Grade changes

Invited guests to IAC meetings: The presentation by Steve Stolp, Director of Services for Student Athletes, and Jennie Leander, Senior Associate Director of SSA, at the meeting on February 16 and the handouts they distributed informed the committee members of many of the details of the functions of that department.

A committee report is made annually to the Faculty Senate by the committee chair, usually at its May meeting.

On the topic of expanding the advising role of the IAC, input by members of the committee could be helpful with future issues, such as the appointment of Jim O’Fallon’s successor as Faculty Athletic Representative, upon his retirement. Also, the inclusion of faculty members on the search committees for head coaches would send the message that academics are a priority at Oregon.

Discussion was held about how to make information more accessible to those interested. Suggestions included making the committee meetings open, updating the IAC website by posting bios and contact information of the committee members and the minutes of the meetings, and establishing a Blackboard site.

A question was asked about disclosure of the forecasting and budgets of the Department of Athletics and the expenses of the Jaqua Center. Financial information of Athletics will be presented during committee meetings, but the Jaqua Center is operated separately from Athletics.

Copies of the draft of the IAC Year-end Report for 2010-11 were distributed to those present. This year’s version is arranged thematically instead of chronologically. Some of the highlights are the search for a new Director of Athletics and the wait for the right person for the position, the establishment of a zero-based budget process, fundraising, NCAA compliance, messaging, and presentations by visitors to the committee meetings.

Election of Chair for 2011-12

It was determined that a quorum was present and it was noted that outgoing members can nominate, but not vote.

Anita Weiss nominated Dev Sinha for Chair. Eric Pederson seconded the nomination. The vote was carried.

Meeting was adjourned.